AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended)   A recording apparatus for recording, onto a recording medium, a compressed stream ~~that is~~ obtained by compressively ~~coding~~ encoding a broadcast audio/video signal ~~signals, on a recording medium,~~ said recording apparatus including:

an encoder operable to (i) receive the broadcast audio/video signal ~~for compressively coding the audio/video signals,~~ (ii) generate the compressed stream having a main unit from the received broadcast audio/video signal, (iii) divide the compressed stream into a plurality of sub-units according to a predetermined time range, (iv) form, according to an instruction, the main unit from a determined portion of the plurality of sub-units, ~~and~~ (v) output ~~outputting a~~ the compressed stream having the main unit formed from the determined portion of sub-units, and (vi) create sub-unit attribute information corresponding to each sub-unit which forms the main unit;
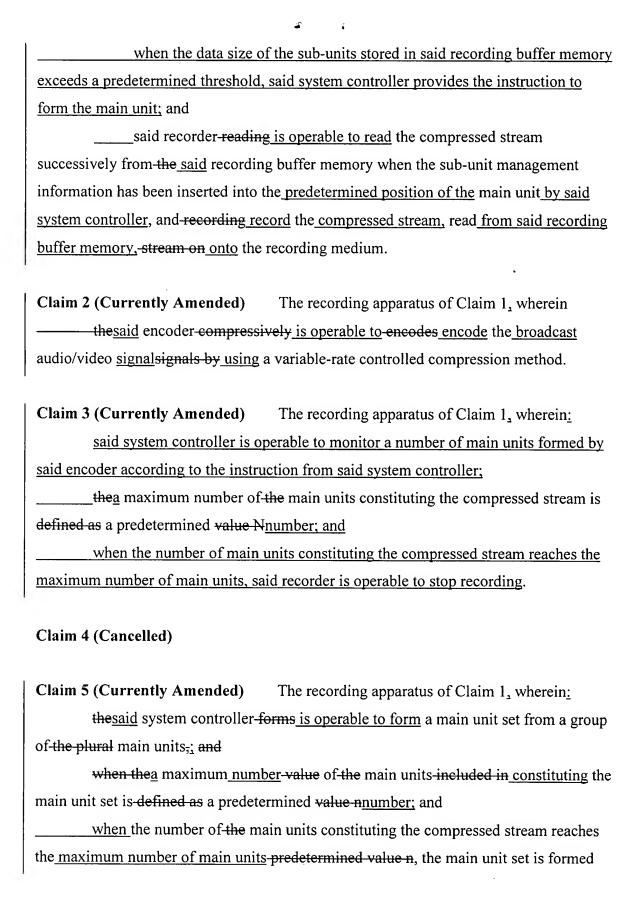
a recording buffer memory ~~for~~ operable to store ~~storing~~ the compressed stream having the main unit formed from the determined portion of sub-units;

a recorder ~~for~~ operable to record ~~recording~~ the compressed stream stored in ~~the~~ said recording buffer memory, ~~on~~ onto the recording medium; and

a system controller ~~for~~ operable to (i) control ~~controlling the respective units~~ said encoder, said recording buffer memory, and said recorder,

~~said encoder dividing a compressed stream of audio/video signals within a predetermined time range to form plural sub-units and forming a main unit from a group of these sub-units to output the compressed stream as well as creating sub-unit attribute information concerning the sub-units, and~~

~~said system controller~~ (ii) generate ~~generating~~ management information for each ~~of the sub-units~~ sub-unit of which said encoder created ~~from~~ sub-unit attribute information, ~~the corresponding sub-unit attribute information,~~ (iii) insert ~~and inserting~~ the management information ~~in~~ into a predetermined position ~~in~~ of the main unit, (iv) monitor a data size of the sub-units stored in said recording buffer memory, and (v) provide, based on the data size, the instruction according to which said encoder forms the main unit, wherein:

when the data size of the sub-units stored in said recording buffer memory exceeds a predetermined threshold, said system controller provides the instruction to form the main unit; and

said recorder ~~reading~~ is operable to read the compressed stream successively from ~~the~~ said recording buffer memory when the sub-unit management information has been inserted into the predetermined position of the main unit by said system controller, and ~~recording~~ record the compressed stream, read from said recording buffer memory, ~~stream on~~ onto the recording medium.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The recording apparatus of Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~said encoder ~~compressively~~ is operable to ~~encodes~~ encode the broadcast audio/video signal~~signals by~~ using a variable-rate controlled compression method.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The recording apparatus of Claim 1, wherein:

said system controller is operable to monitor a number of main units formed by said encoder according to the instruction from said system controller;

~~the~~a maximum number of ~~the~~ main units constituting the compressed stream is ~~defined as~~ a predetermined ~~value N~~number; and

when the number of main units constituting the compressed stream reaches the maximum number of main units, said recorder is operable to stop recording.

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The recording apparatus of Claim 1, wherein:

~~the~~said system controller ~~forms~~ is operable to form a main unit set from a group of ~~the plural~~ main units~~,~~; ~~and~~

~~when the~~a maximum number ~~value~~ of ~~the~~ main units ~~included in~~ constituting the main unit set is ~~defined as~~ a predetermined ~~value n~~number; and

when the number of ~~the~~ main units constituting the compressed stream reaches the maximum number of main units ~~predetermined value n~~, the main unit set is formed

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from a group comprising the ~~predetermined value n of the~~ <u>maximum number of</u> main units, <u>and</u> ~~then followed by starting~~ <u>a</u> formation of a<u>nother</u> ~~next~~ main unit set <u>is initiated</u>.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended)   The recording apparatus of Claim 3 wherein

a memory size of the recording buffer memory is defined by a recording capacity of the recording medium and the predetermined value ~~N~~.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended)   The recording apparatus of Claim 3<u>,</u> wherein

———a memory size of ~~the~~ <u>said</u> recording buffer memory is defined by a size of data to be recorded and the predetermined ~~value N~~<u>number</u>.

Claim 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended)   The recording apparatus of Claim ~~8~~ <u>1</u>, wherein

the predetermined <u>threshold</u> ~~value M~~ is defined by a memory size of ~~the~~ <u>said</u> recording buffer memory.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended)   The recording apparatus of Claim ~~8~~ <u>1</u>, wherein<u>:</u>

~~the~~<u>a</u> maximum number of ~~the~~ main units constituting the compressed stream is set at a predetermined <u>number</u> ~~value N~~<u>;</u> and

the predetermined <u>threshold</u> ~~value M~~ is defined by a recording capacity of the recording medium and the <u>maximum number of main units</u>~~predetermined value N~~.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended)   The recording apparatus of Claim ~~8~~ <u>1</u>, wherein<u>:</u>

~~the~~<u>a</u> maximum number of ~~the~~ main units constituting the compressed stream is set at a predetermined <u>number</u> ~~value N~~<u>;</u> and

the predetermined <u>threshold</u> ~~value M~~ is defined by a size of data to be recorded and the <u>maximum number of main units</u> ~~predetermined value N~~.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended)   The recording apparatus of Claim 1<u>,</u> wherein

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thesaid encoder is operable to utilize detects at least one information among from information concerning a data size of the each sub-unit which forms the main unit, information concerning a position of the each sub-unit in which forms the main unit, and information concerning a playback time of the each sub-unit which forms the main unit, as the sub-unit attribute information.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended)   The recording apparatus of Claim 1, wherein
————————Thewhen said system controller inserts the sub-unit management information into the main unit the sub-unit management information so as to be is placed at a head of each sub-unit comprising the main unit.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended)   The recording apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:
————————a unit for issuing operable to issue a recording stop command or and a recording start command, wherein:
_____said system controller posting is operable to post a coding stop instruction to the said encoder when the recording stop command is issued by said unit;; and
_____said encoder finishing is operable to finish forming the main unit whenunit upon receiving the coding stop instruction from said system controller, taking and a the sub-unit that is being formed at a time when the coding stop instruction is received by said encoder as is a last sub-unit to be encoded by said encoder.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended)   The recording apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:
————————a decision unit for deciding operable to determine the a type of the recording medium, wherein: and
_____said system controller selecting is operable to either inserting insert the sub-unit management information in into a predetermined position in the main unit on the basis of a result of the decision by the decision unit, or controlling and control the said recorder for recording to record the sub-unit management information in onto a sub-unit management area on the recording medium; and

said system controller is operable to either insert the sub-unit management information or control said recorder to record the sub-unit management information according to the determination of said decision unit.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended)   A recording method for recording, onto a recording medium, ~~by which~~ a compressed stream ~~that is~~ obtained by compressively ~~coding~~ encoding a broadcast audio/video signal ~~signals is recorded on a recording medium,~~ said recording method comprising:

receiving the broadcast audio/video signal;

encoding the broadcast audio/video signal;

~~a coding step of compressively coding the audio/video signals,~~

generating the compressed stream, which includes a main unit, from the received broadcast audio/video signal;

dividing the compressed stream into a plurality of sub-units according to a predetermined time range;

forming, according to an instruction, the main unit of the compressed stream from a determined portion of the plurality of sub-units ~~thereby generating a compressed stream~~;

creating sub-unit attribute information corresponding to each sub-unit which forms the main unit;

~~a storage step of~~ storing the compressed stream, having the main unit formed from the determined portion of sub-units, in a buffer memory;

~~a recording step of~~ recording the compressed stream stored in the buffer memory ~~in the storage step on~~ onto the recording medium; and

~~a system control step of~~ controlling said receiving, said generating, said creating, said storing, and said recording ~~the respective steps~~, wherein:

~~in the coding step, a compressed stream of audio/video signals within a predetermined time range is divided to form plural sub-units, and a main unit is formed from a group of the sub-units as well as sub-unit attribute information concerning the sub-unit is created,~~

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in the system control step said controlling includes (i) generating, management information for of each of the sub-units of which the sub-unit attribute information is created by said creating of the sub-unit attribute information is generated from the corresponding sub-unit attribute information, and, (ii) inserting each of the management information is inserted in into a predetermined position in of the main unit, (iii) monitoring a data size of the sub-units stored in the buffer memory, and (iv) providing, based on the data size, the instruction to said forming of the main unit; and

in the when the data size of the sub-units stored in the buffer memory exceeds a predetermined threshold, said controlling further includes providing the instruction to form the main unit; and

said recording of the compressed stream step, includes reading the compressed stream successively from the buffer memory when the sub-unit management information has been inserted into the main unit, and recording the compressed stream in, read from the buffer memory, which the sub-unit management has been inserted is successively recorded on onto the recording medium.